



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Nishioka et al. Attorney Docket: 60586-300501
Serial No.: 09/788,047 Group Art Unit: 1711
Filed: February 16, 2001 Examiner: Rabon A. Sargent
Title: **ACETIC ANHYDRIDE METHOD OF PURIFYING CRUDE ACETIC ANHYDRIDE, AND METHOD OF PRODUCING POLYOZYTETRAMETHYLENE GLYCOL USING ACETIC ANHYDRIDE**

OK X
RJ exer 1/1/03
Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

RECEIVED
DEC 19 2002
TC 1700

2/12/03
2/10/03
Dear Sir:

This paper is responsive to the Office Action dated July 31, 2002. Please amend the application (as shown in the attached "Version with Markings to Show Changes Made"), without prejudice, as follows and consider the subsequent remarks:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

5. (5) (twice amended) A method of purifying crude acetic anhydride wherein treatment with an ozone-containing gas is conducted after distilling acetic anhydride containing diketenes.